

10-4977

24 June 1958

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Communist and Anti-Communist Reaction to the Nixon Visits

Paraguay: Negative Report

Uruguay:

1. Appearing on 30 May 1958 in the independent, Montevideo, weekly publication Marcha is a commentary on the Nixon visits by the former president of Guatemala, entitled: The Great Provocateur: Mister NIXON.

2. The cleverly written article occupies a full page of this anti-American, third position tabloid and begins by an account of the attitude of the Uruguayan university students which was that the Vice President would not be welcome at the University. Arevalo states that the American Embassy was aware of the situation and advised Nixon accordingly. Nevertheless Nixon went to the University and a hostile reception. Arevalo reports that an identical situation existed in Buenos Aires, where the students issued a statement to the effect that the Vice President would not be welcome. In Buenos Aires, feelings were so strong against the Vice President that he was delayed in his arrival at the inauguration of President Frondizi. According to Arevalo, Nixon then went on the following day to the University of Buenos Aires where he found the quarrel that he was looking for.

3. Arevalo says that this activity was a definite indication of what was to follow and that it was clear that the phenomenon which began in Montevideo would increase.

4. In Lima, Nixon forgot that he was representing the most powerful country in the world, and disregarding the recommendations of the American Ambassador, attended San Marcos University where he was not wanted. Worst of all, he was foolish enough to take his wife. Arevalo comments that Nixon went to San Marcos as if it were an adventure.

5. A proposal that the road to Caracas be lined by troops was turned down because Nixon did not want people to think that he was a coward. As a result, Nixon, as well as his wife, received the greatest mass, outrageous affront ever given a person of such an important international position.

6. Arevalo says that the Nixon journey became 15 tragic days for United States prestige which had more behind it than student insolence.

sudden mob outbreaks and resentment concerning economic policy. Arevalo says that the true culprit or the greatest culprit was the Vice President, who acted in every situation "like a simple and common provocateur."

7. Nixon's only true mission was that of representing the United States at the inauguration of the Argentine president. The rest of the schedule, according to Arevalo, was set out by Nixon with the boldness for which he is well known. He personally decided which countries he would visit in his triumphal tour, "advising the appropriate governments so that they might receive him on a good neighbor visit."

8. Arevalo asks what business Nixon had in going to the universities and arguing with the students. He asks if Nixon happened to be an illustrious professor from an American university or even a man of letters.

9. Arevalo asks if President Eisenhower, who is also not known as a contributor to culture, had charged Nixon with the task of "catechising" the young students of Latin America.

10. Arevalo states that Nixon's presidential ambition caused him to provoke the historical events, "just because." "Nixon did not come as Vice President of the United States; he came as a presidential candidate." Arevalo says that Nixon could not tolerate the idea that any sector within a country on the American continent would declare him persona non grata and he had to give any such sector an opportunity for an exchange of words in which he would be able to show how wrong they were.

11. Arevalo refers to the general inability of the Americans to understand the Latin Americans and states that Nixon came to a new world determined to find "a personal, unsharable, intransferable triumph." "He came in search for the greatest publicity possible, strident publicity, for the purpose of furthering his personal political career, in which the newspapers and photographers had to be involved." "He wanted news in a shower of sparks which could be seen from New York; the peal of bells; bouquets of flowers; speeches; photographs with a baby in his arms, when speaking to a Negro or when he extends 'a democratic' hand to a beggar." "Publicity, more publicity." "He has faith." "He is counting on his great experience in demagoguery." "His symbols are his teeth and long hand." Arevalo then launches into a short diatribe: "National symbols. Laugh while one eats and attracts to oneself the supplies of your neighbor. The good neighbor. The associated neighbor. Associated so that he may see you eat and applaud. Mister Nixon wanted a tumult to surround the banquet. He wanted the tumult so that he could return to the metropolis [Washington] garlanded with flowers, as if returning from Hawaii, or with the sand of the colonies in his hands, as Bonaparte from Egypt."

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"However, he did not return in that manner. He returned spat upon, stoned, booed, very much booed, attacked by the mobs, and so pursued that he had to seek 'asylum' in his own Embassy. He looked for trouble. He persisted in seeing that it would happen."

Attachment - 1

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